Yukon

Government of Yukon

Yukon Government NEWS *release*

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Yukon Participates in First-Ever Pan-Canadian Interactive Literacy Forum

WHITEHORSE - The Department of Education is committed to advancing literacy and is pleased to be a receiving site for the first Pan-Canadian Interactive Literacy Forum, sponsored by the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC), and provincial and territorial Ministries of Education.

"This innovative event supports the people who are working to improve literacy in Yukon," Education Minister Patrick Rouble said. "The forum demonstrates how our high level of connectivity and infrastructure can be used for the benefit of Yukoners."

Yukon's theme, *Building Literacy in Communities through Technologies*, reflects the important role technology plays in sharing ideas and communicating in our communities and around the world.

The event is part of the national action plan initiated by CMEC and is supported by all provinces and territories. The forum will take place April 14 and 15.

This first-of-its-kind forum will use web casting to connect 10 sites and approximately 3,500 concerned citizens, learners and literacy experts from coast to coast to coast. Over the two-day event, six keynote speakers will present to audiences across Canada, including Whitehorse.

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World-class literacy and education experts and policy makers including Adrienne Clarkson, Dr. Fraser Mustard, Frank McKenna, Susan Aglukark and Charles Coffey are scheduled to give presentations. The technology is interactive, and presenters will field questions from delegates across Canada, including Whitehorse.

Up to 60 Yukon delegates will meet at Vanier Catholic Secondary School to participate in the Forum starting at 7 a.m., April 14. Education Minister Patrick Rouble will officially open Yukon's Forum at 9:20 a.m. Monday.

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Media are invited to attend Monday morning between 7:15 a.m. and 10 a.m. The early start accommodates participants in all of Canada's time zones.

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